

U.S. Custom-House and Post Office
Royal and St. Francis Streets
Mobile
Mobile County
Alabama

HABS No. AL-830

HABS
ALA
49-MOB1,
228-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Alabama	COUNTY Mobile	TOWN OR VICINITY Mobile
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) U. S. Custom-House and Post Office		HABS NO. AL-830
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Southwest corner of Royal and St. Francis Streets		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1853-56	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Ammi B. Young, architect; Danville Leadbetter, superintendent of construction	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Notable example of work of leading nineteenth-century Federal architect.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Classical Revival		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Ashlar over brick		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 86'-4" (five bays) x 145'-10" (nine bays) with advanced three-bay central pavilion on each street facade, three stories		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Shallow hipped roof, bracketed cornice, vermiculated ground floor and quoining, triple entrances on each facade enframed by architraves studded with paterae; three-bay balcony above resting on scrolled consoles.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Piano nobile arrangement (ground floor devoted to postal services, public lobby, and "appraiser's room and storage;" custom house and U.S. courtroom on second and third floors respectively), twin three-story cast-iron stairways in Royal St.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES vestibule, skylight above third-floor courtroom.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Demolished 1963.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Hamilton, Peter Joseph. Art Work of Mobile and Vicinity. Chicago: W.H. Parish Pub. Co., 1894. Includes full-page photo of this building		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) See field records for information on documentation in the National Archives, with copies of some of this material.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Alison K. Hoagland, HABS		DATE November, 1984